

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Rumania	REPORT NO.		25X1
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Public Health

1. General health conditions in Rumania are very poor. While there are a sufficient number of beds available in hospitals and clinics, the medical and surgical equipment of such hospitals is very mediocre and of limited efficiency, resulting in superficial treatment.
2. The following are the more widespread diseases in order of prevalence:
  - a. Tuberculosis, caused by the food shortage.
  - b. Venereal diseases in Rumania, which have always been considerable, increased still further after the closing of the brothels in 1948. This has led to an increase in clandestine prostitution, which is not subject to medical controls, particularly in towns with large military garrisons, such as Timisoara.
  - c. Stomach complaints
  - d. Pellagra, caused by lack of vitamins.
  - e. Rickets.

Medicinals

3. Special drugs are particularly scarce. Only hospitals and clinics, receive limited and completely inadequate quantities of penicillin. Private individuals are allowed to have medicinal preparations sent from abroad. When medicines are withdrawn at the post office, evidence has to be provided in the form of a medical certificate that they are indispensable for the treatment being received. Heavy duty is paid on such medicinals, part of which is collected by the health authorities.

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Doctors

4. The number of doctors is inadequate compared with the large amount of work on hand. Their activities are also rendered difficult by interference from the Party. Doctors are not allowed to discuss medical discoveries of the Western World or to keep up-to-date with scientific progress by reading publications or reviews published outside the Soviet orbit. A doctor who is not a specialist earns approximately 600 lei a month.

Hospitals and Clinics

5. Central Hospital, Timisoara: The hospital, which has 120 beds, is located in Strada Marasesti and is comprised of the following wards:

Internal diseases  
Venereal diseases and skin diseases  
Radiology  
Electro-Cardiographic cabinet

6. The medical staff includes:

Professor Desideriu Merkler - Director. Specialist for internal complaints,

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Dr. Vasile Pavel

- Assistant

25X1 Dr. Nicolaievich

- Assistant,

Dr. Adler

- Assistant,

25X1 Dr. Bacanu

- Assistant,

Dr. Barbu

7. Civil Hospital, Timisoara: The hospital, which has 230 beds, is located at the corner of Marasesti and Aradului Streets. It was built in 1950-1951 on the foundations of the former artillery school, which was destroyed by bombing during World War II. It is comprised of the following wards:

Ground Floor	Management First Aid Post Reception
First Floor	Radiology Cancer Ward
Second Floor	Surgical Ward
Third Floor	Ward for internal diseases

8. The hospital staff includes:

Professor Tigherman

Political director. [REDACTED]

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Professor Margineanu Director of radiology and cancer wards.

Professor Alexandru Pop Director of surgical ward.

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Dr. Henri Haubert Director of ward for internal diseases.

9. The medical and surgical equipment, which was supplied by Czechoslovakia and Hungary in 1950, is up-to-date and efficient.
10. Bega Hospital, Timisoara: The hospital, which has 200 beds, is located off the Boulevard Mihai Viteazu. It is comprised of a surgical ward, a ward for internal diseases and a urological ward.
11. The hospital staff includes:

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Professor Ioan Muresanu Director of surgical ward.

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Professor Paonescu Podeanu Director of the ward for internal diseases.

Professor Bulbucu Director of the urological ward.

12. Surgery, Timisoara: The surgery is located on Boulevard 23 August in the former headquarters of the social insurance organization. The patients are examined by hospital doctors. The purpose of these examinations is to establish whether the patients must be admitted to hospital or can be treated at home.
13. Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, Timisoara: This hospital, which has 50-60 beds, is located on Boulevard 23 August. The director is Professor Garbea, a Rumanian national. The assistant director (political) is Dr. Salomon.

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14. Neurological Clinic, Timisoara: The clinic has 40 beds and is located on Boulevard 23 August. The director is Professor Oscar Sager. His assistants are Dr. Mehala, a Rumanian, and Dr. Stossel.

15. Eye Clinic, Timisoara: The clinic, which has 40 beds, is located next to the Central Hospital. The hospital staff includes:

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Professor Nicolae Blat Director.

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Dr. Mircea Leibovic Assistant (political).

16. Blood Transfusion Center, Timisoara: The center, known as Centrul de Conservare si Transfuzii de Sange (Blood Preservation and Transfusion Center) is located on Boulevard 23 August in a requisitioned two-story building. It comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Health. The staff includes:

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Professor Desideriu Merkler

Director. Also director of the  
Central Hospital.

Dr. Ototea Gheorghie

Assistant.

17. Blood donors are very numerous. An identity card issued to a blood donor in May 1952 bears the running number 2129. Donors give their blood at fixed intervals of six weeks. For each transfusion they received 50 lei as well as a coupon entitling them to purchase the following rationed goods at Government controlled prices:

2 kilograms of meat  
500 grams of sugar  
500 grams of oil  
200 grams of bread daily for a period of one month

18. Every type of propaganda is used with a view to increasing the number of blood donors. The results have been satisfactory and donors are steadily increasing in number. This favorable response is due not to a feeling of solidarity for the suffering, but to the desperate financial state in which most would-be donors find themselves and which induces them to attempt to augment their modest salary by every possible means.

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